Increase in diabetes in the country

4565. SHRI PARMESHWAR KUMAR AGARWALLA:
SHRI NANA DESHMUKH:

Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state;

(a) whether India has been declared the diabetes capital of the world;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether it is also a fact that more and more juvenile are falling prey to this disease,

(d) whether it is also a fact that unless concrete steps are taken to combat this disease, the diabetic population in India will rise to 5.72 crore by 2025; and

(e) the measures taken by Government to arrest the increasing trend of this disease among the children and to accelerate steps to spread awareness among masses?

THE MINISTER OF STAIE IN THE MINISTRY OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (SHRI A. RAJA): (a) to (d) There is no nation wide data collection regarding the number of people suffering from diabetes. However, it has been estimated that in 1995, 19.4 million individuals were affected by diabetes in India & these numbers are expected to increase to 57.2 million by the year 2025. Indian Council of Medical Research have estimated that about 10% of the diabetics in the country are in the juvenile age group.

(e) Since Diabetes is a Lifestyle related disease, it is very important to adopt preventive lifestyle intervention for control of diabetes among the children and the adults in the country. These interventions are being emphasized through Information, Education and Communication (IEC) activities of the Government including through Central Health Education Bureau (CHEB).

Health satellite

4566. SHRI K. KALAVENKATA RAO:
SHRI RAVULA CHANDRA SEKAR REDDY :

Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that the Indian Space Research Organisation (ISRO) is considering launching a health satellite to beep up tele-medicine facilities and help the country's health care sector;

(b) if so, whether India has got the expertise in this field or it will obtain technology from some other country; and

(c) the other details in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (SHRI A. RAJA): (a) to (c) Indian Space Research Organization (ISRO) has informed that they have taken up the task of technology demonstration for tele-connectivity through TNSAT satellites, to provide medical services to remote areas. The concept is to connect hospitals in remote areas with super specialty hospitals, to enable tele-consultations between doctors of different locations about the patients. This is a major step forward in extending the reach and quality of health services to remote areas. At present telemedicine connectivity is provided on INSAT-3B satellite and the experience gained will provide a data base for configuring a Health Satellite.

Setting up of heavy industries in backward districts

4567. PROF. M M AGARWAL: Will the Minister of HEAVY INDUSTRIES AND PUBLIC ENTERPRISES be pleased to state:

(a) whether there is any proposal to set up heavy industries in the backward districts of the country during the Tenth Five Year Plan;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF HEAVY INDUSTRIES AND PUBLIC ENTERPRISES (SHRI BALASAHEB VTKHE PATIL): (a) and (b) So far as the Department of Heavy Industry is concerned, there is no proposal at present to set up any new public sector units during the Tenth Five Year Plan anywhere in the country.

(c) The Government propose to withdraw from the non-strategic sector.

Disbursement of wage arrears

4568. SHRIMATI BIMBA RAIKAR : Will the Minister of HEAVY INDUSTRIES AND PUBLIC ENTERPRISES be pleased to state :

(a) whether any precise guidelines have been set for the disbursement of wage arrears/VRS/terminal benefits for the employees of units which are under disinvestment process;

(b) if so, the percentage of funds disbursed as arrears of wages/VRS/ terminal benefits to employees out of total income accruing from disinvestment of sick PSUs till now;